



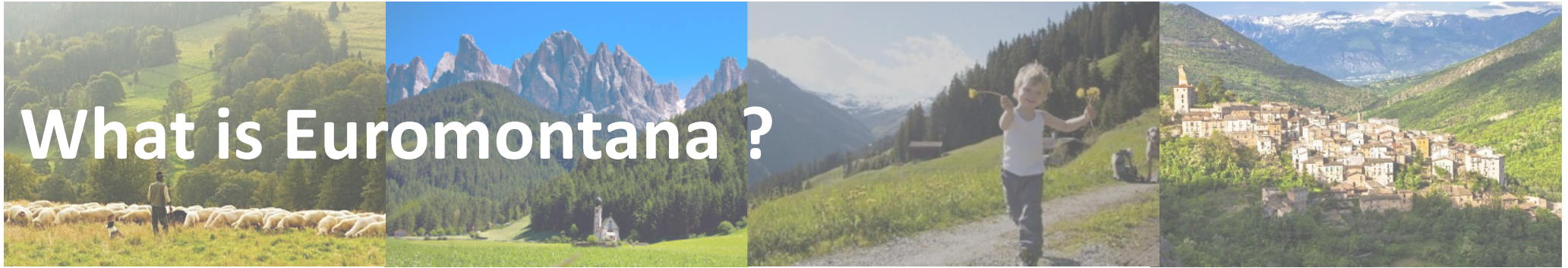
Euromontana

Activities related to pastoralism

Radu – Adrian Rey (vice-president)

Vatra Dornei, 27 April 2023

What is Euromontana ?



- ▶ European **multisectoral** association for cooperation and development of mountain areas (since 1996)
- ▶ Around 65 members from 15 countries
- ▶ Comprising :
 - regional and local authorities
 - regional development agencies
 - chambers of commerce and industry
 - agriculture organisations
 - environmental organisations
 - research organisations
 - training institutes ...



Diversity of members = strength → increased interest from institutions



Pastoralism for mountain areas

- ▶ **Very important economic and cultural sector**
 - A traditional economic sector that provides jobs and high quality products (both food and non food products)

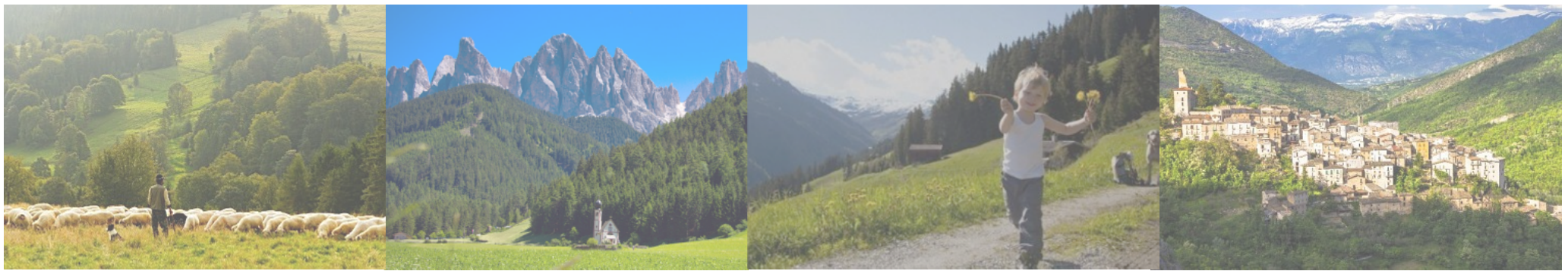
- ▶ **Essential driver of sustainable development**
 - Ecosystem services / landscape management (e.g. benefits for biodiversity, wildfire prevention, etc.)
 - Essential for achieving the EU's environmental, climate and biodiversity protection objectives
 - Contributes to several of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Euromontana's work

► Ongoing / Past European projects

- **Oreka Mendian** (LIFE) => strategies to manage mountain pasture areas located in 15 Natura 2000 sites, balancing conservation interests and those of forest users.
- **ShepForBio** (LIFE) => restoration of grasslands through the development of existing livestock activities and the birth of new ones, also through the creation of a school for shepherds. Includes support to creating a European network of pastoral schools.



LIFE SHEP
FOR BIO

Florac, France
10 -11 May 2023

SAVE THE DATE

1st International Conference
The role of pastoral schools
in the management of
natural habitats



LIFE20 NAT/IT/001076

Shepherds for Biodiversity in Mountain Marginal Areas



“Sustainable Agriculture Models In the Romanian Mountain Area”

Project developed within the Euromontana network.

Improved sustainability of livestock based agriculture in the Romanian Carpathian Mountains by integrating traditional activities in the modern economic system.

Strengthening the production factors of traditional production systems:

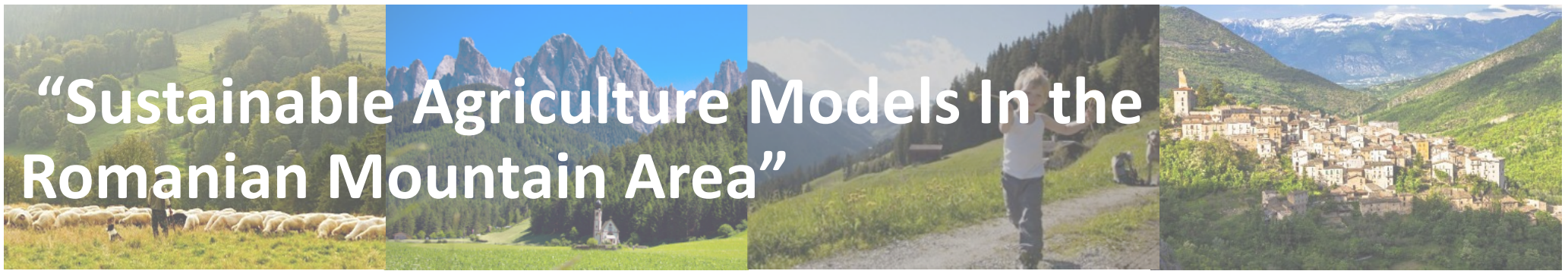
- Pasture management improving measures (management plans)
- Six modern sheepshelter models built and operational in the test areas

Improving market opportunities of traditional products:

- Product specification and technical assistance for 3 clusters of products
- Marketing study
- Branding kit for mountain products developed
- Local, regional and national events to promote traditional products
- Campaign for local products consumption



“Sustainable Agriculture Models In the Romanian Mountain Area”



Improved competences of producers to diversify and modernize their production.

- A New Curricula for shepherds, sheepfoldmasters and farmer organisations was developed and the farmers associations involved in the project have been strengthened.
- Exchange visits with Swiss partners to Switzerland, France and Spain.

Promoting the models and best practices

- Best practices guide
- Dissemination activities

<http://www.carpatsheep.ro>





Euromontana's work

► Relevant Studies / Reports

- [“Overview of sustainable practices for the management of mountain grasslands” \(2021\)](#)
- [“Implementation of the EU optional quality term “mountain product” – new Euromontana study” \(2020\)](#)



Euromontana's work

► Policy works

- Monitoring and analysis of relevant EU policies relevant to pastoral activities and wildlife management.
- Multiple events to defend the contribution of pastoral activities to rural development.
- Supported the adoption of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists for 2026
- Integration in policy recommendations
 - ↳ Bragança Declaration: « Facing the challenge of climate change: adaptation for future generations » (environmental dimension)
 - ↳ Vatra Dornei Declaration: “Cultural heritage: an asset rooted in the territory synonymous with attractiveness and the future for our mountains!” (cultural heritage dimension)



Euromontana's upcoming activities

► Short term:

- 10-11 May: [International Conference – The role of pastoral schools in the management of natural habitats](#)
- March 2024: [Horizon Europe's call for proposal on Agro pastoral/outdoor livestock systems](#).
- March 2024: [Horizon Europe's call for proposal on Thematic networks to compile and share knowledge ready for practice](#)

► Medium / Long term:

- Facilitating the creation of a European network of pastoral schools to enhance capacity (through the ShepForBio project)
- Participation to International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists for 2026 (still to be determined)

A man in a dark blue jacket and black pants is hiking on a grassy mountain ridge. He has a child in a black beanie and dark clothing sitting on his back in a grey and red backpack. The background shows a vast mountain range under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The foreground is filled with tall, dry grass.

Thank you !

www.euromontana.org

info@euromontana.org

+32 (0)2 280 42 83

Euromontana
Place du Champ de Mars, 2
1050 Brussels

Let's keep in touch

